

CLAIMS:

What is claimed is:

1. A method of converting a gaming machine from a first game to a second game, the gaming machine including a top box display having a standardized internal substructure, the substructure supporting one or more first display elements associated with the first game, the substructure being substantially concealed from a player's view during normal operation of the gaming machine, the method comprising:
 - removing the one or more first display elements from the substructure; and
 - installing one or more second display elements on the substructure in place of the one or more first display elements, the one or more second display elements being associated with the second game.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein the one or more first display elements are mounted to the substructure, wherein the removing step disconnects the one or more first display elements from the substructure, and wherein the installing step mounts the one or more second display elements to the substructure.
3. The method of claim 1, wherein the one or more first display elements and the one or more second display elements are selected from a group consisting of decorative shells, sculptures, video displays, and mechanical displays.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein the one or more first display elements include a first side facing artwork panel adapted to be backlit from within the top box display, and wherein the one or more second display elements include a second side facing artwork panel adapted to be backlit from within the top box display.
5. A kit for converting a gaming machine from a first game to a second game, the gaming machine including a top box display having a standardized internal substructure, the substructure supporting one or more first display elements associated with the first game, the substructure being substantially concealed from a player's view during normal operation of the gaming machine, the kit comprising one or more second display elements associated with the second game, the one or more second display elements adapted to mount to the substructure in place of the one or more first

display elements after the one or more first display elements are removed from the substructure.

5 6. The kit of claim 5, wherein the substructure includes a cable chase defining a space for accommodating power and data cables.

7. The kit of claim 6, wherein the cable chase is adapted to support power supplies and controller boards.

10 8. The kit of claim 6, wherein the cable chase includes a plurality of connector holes for mounting standardized cable connectors.

15 9. The kit of claim 5, wherein the one or more first display elements and the one or more second display elements are selected from a group consisting of decorative shells, sculptures, video displays, and mechanical displays.

20 10. The kit of claim 5, wherein the one or more first display elements include a first side facing artwork panel adapted to be backlit from within the top box display, and wherein the one or more second display elements include a second side facing artwork panel adapted to be backlit from within the top box display.

25 11. A gaming machine convertible from play of a first game to play of a second game, the machine comprising a top box display having a standardized internal substructure, the substructure being substantially concealed from a player's view during normal operation of the gaming machine, the substructure supporting one or more first display elements associated with the first game when the machine is operable to play the first game, the substructure supporting one or more second display elements associated with the second game when the machine is operable to play the second game, the one or more second display elements adapted to mount to the substructure in place of the one or more first display elements after the one or more first display elements are removed from the substructure.

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12. The machine of claim 11, wherein the substructure includes a cable chase defining a space for accommodating power and data cables.

13. The machine of claim 12, wherein the cable chase is adapted to support power supplies and controller boards.
- 5 14. The machine of claim 12, wherein the cable chase includes a plurality of connector holes for mounting standardized cable connectors.
- 15 15. The machine of claim 11, wherein the one or more first display elements and the one or more second display elements are selected from a group consisting of decorative shells, sculptures, video displays, and mechanical displays.
- 16 16. The machine of claim 11, wherein the one or more first display elements include a first side facing artwork panel adapted to be backlit from within the top box display, and wherein the one or more second display elements include a second side facing artwork panel adapted to be backlit from within the top box display.
- 20 17. A gaming machine convertible from play of a first game to play of a second game, the machine comprising a top box display having a standardized internal substructure, the substructure being substantially concealed from a player's view during normal operation of the gaming machine, the substructure adapted to support different sets of one or more display elements depending upon which of the first and second games that the machine is operable to play.